5/4 194 Royal Institution Thursday

morn. 12th June

6 o'clock. 1900

My dear Sir Joseph.

I hope you can make it convenient to come and give me a left thei morning at our meeting for I want you very much. Our Treasurer has not qualified and he does not seem to be in any hurry to do so. I mentioned to him at our last meeting the embarrassments we were under for the want of a Treasurer to furnish money to the new Committee of Expenditure but he proposed as an expedient

that I should draw on Ransom
& Co. who, he said, would not re=
fuse any Draft. — I see no reason
why Business should be done in
this irregular way, when it may
and ought to be done in the
manner specially and clearly point=
=ed out in our Bye Laws.

Our Lectures are over for this
Season and Garnett is going into
the Country to stay there till
January next. I see no good
reason why we should keep up
our present numerous and expen=
=sive Establishment of Servants,
especially as a great part of the
House is coming down, and we
shall soon have no place in the
House to Lodge them.

All we can possibly want till
January next are

One Clerk of the Works,	Webster
One Clerk	Savage
One Messenger who may act as Porter & Messenger }	Blanchett
and One House Maid	Betty

This arrangement will enable
us to discharge.

Dr. Garnett's Assistant	Sadler
The Porter	Wharton
The House-keeper	Mrs. Wharton
and One House Maid	Jenny.

If this scheme should meet
with your approbation I beg that
you would move the necessary
resolutions today, and there will

be more than one difficulty re-
moved. As soon as this disagreeable
business shall be completed, and
every thing in the House belonging
to the Institution delivered over to
the care of those Persons who are
to take and have the charge of
them my mind will be at rest
and can go to Harrowgate and give
those waters a fair trial, which
as things are now circumstanced
would be impossible.

I am Ever, my dear Sir Joseph
Yours most faithfully
Rumford.

Count Rumford
Dec 12
83

DSI

Monsieur le President,

L'Institut national de France possède les 13 premieres Volumes des Monumenta Boica, et il desire compléter cette collection, et aussi de se procurer les Actes complètes de l'Academie Bavaroise, qui ont déja parues, et leur continuation à l'avenir; et en revanche l'Institut est disposé à envoyer à l'Academie Royale des Sciences et des Arts de la Bavière la collection, et aussi la suite de ses Mémoires.

Comme cet échange ne peut qu'etre avantageux, et agréeable à mes Collegues de l'Academie Royale j'ose me flatter que Votre Excellence voudra leur en faire la proposition, et au cas de leur acceptation qu'Elle voudra

faire

faire expédier aupitot pour Paris un exem=
-plaire des Actes de l'Academie, y compris les
Monumenta Boica, addreſsè à Monsieur Legendre,
President de la Claſse des Sciences Phyſiques
et Mathematiques de l'Institut.

C'est avec la consideration la plus
distinguée que j'ai l'honneur d'etre

de Votre Excellence

le tres humble, et
Obeiſsant Serviteur

Rumford.

Paris, Rue d'Anjou St. Honorè
12 Mars 1806.

A Son Excellence le Comte de Seefeld,
President de l'Academie Royale des Sciences et des
Arts, à Munich.

DSI

1906. 26 März

Akten einstweilen nach Graz zu schicken.

HRS

The bearer Mr. Webster is employed by me as Clerk of the Works and Draughtsman at the Royal Institution, consequently Mr. Swan will be so good as to afford him all the assistance, which consistantly with his situation and other occupations he can give him.

It is expected that the Porter at the House of the Institution will afford Mr. Webster all the assistance he may require of him.

Brompton Row 5th August 1799

Rumford.

Rumford
30/-

338

Note from
Count Rumford to
the Clerk and Porter
at the Institution.

P14

Count Rumford thinks ~~that~~
as Profs. Cadell & Davies have
been so good as to consent
to be named as the Publishers
of the Journals of the Royal
Institution, that they should
superintend the printing of them
up, and the delivery of
them.

Royal Institution
8th April 1800.

Thompson

10.

AUTOGRAPHE

de

Rumford

Benjamin Thompson, Graf von

OBSERVATIONS

565 **Rumford (Benjamin Thompson Graf von)** Naturforscher und Staatsmann.

Die Biographie dieses äußerst merkwürdigen Mannes, der Unterstaatssekretär in England und Kriegsminister in Bayern gewesen ist, auch nur anzudeuten, ist unmöglich. Hier sei nur auf zwei Seiten seiner Tätigkeit hingewiesen. Er hat nach jahrelangen Untersuchungen über die Wärme sich zu dem Satze durchgerungen, daß Wärme kein Stoff sei, sondern der Ausdruck eines Bewegungszustandes. Zweitens hat er die „Royal Institution" in London gegründet und anfänglich geleitet. Dabei war er einer der werktätigsten Philanthropen, den die Welt gesehen hat. [1753—1814.]

E.B.m.U. an Sir Joseph (Banks) Royal Institution Morn. 12th June 6 (1800). 4S.4°.

Wegen des hervorragenden Interesses folgt die volle Abschrift des Briefes. „I hope you can make it convenient to come and give me a lift this morning at our meeting for I want you very much. Our Treasurer has not qualified, and he does not seem to be in any hurry to do so. I mentioned to him at our last meeting the embarrassments we were under for the want of a Treasurer to furnish money to the new Committee of Expenditure but he proposed as an expedient that I should draw on Ransom & Co, who, he said, would not refuse my draft — I see no reason why business should be done in this irregular way, when it may and ought to be done in the manner specially and clearly pointed out in our Bye Laws. Our Lectures are over for this season, and Garnett is going into the Country to stay there 'till January next. I see no good reason why we should keep up our present numerous and expensive Establishment of Servants, especially as a great part of the House is coming down, and we shall soon have no place in the House to lodge them. All we can possibly want 'till January next are

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I am Ever my dear Sir Joseph
yours most faithfully Rumford."

R U M F O R D Benjamin Thompson, Graf von, geb. 26.3.1753 zu Woburn in Massachussetts, gest, 14.8.1814 in Auteuil, 1772 Lehrer in Rumford/jetzt Concord/beim Ausbruch d. nordamer. Freiheitskrieges i. d. kön. Miliz 1776 Anstellung i. engl. Kriegsministerium 1782 wieder Amerika, dort errichtete er 1 Reiterkorps. 1784 Staatsrat i. bayrischen Diensten. Erfand Sparöfen, u. nahrhafte sog. "Rumfordsche Suppe" Der Kurfürst ernannte ihn 1792 zum Grafen von R. u. zum Generalleutnant. 1799 kehrte er nach England zur. wo er über die Natur u. Anwendung d. Wärme experimentierte u. d. Umsetzung v. Arbeit in Wärme erkannte. 1802 Paris, u. seit 1812 in Auteuil. Er schrieb.. "Recherches sur la chaleur"/Par. 1804-13/ "Recherches sur les bois et le charbon"/das. 1813/ "Essays political, economical and philosophical"/Lond 1796-1803, 3 Bde/ Seine Werke erschienen gesammelt mit Biographie in 5 Bänden/hrsg. von Ellis, Lond. 1876./ In München wurde ihm ein Standbild/mod. v. Zumbusch/ errichtet. Vgl. Renwick, Life of Count R./Boston 1845/ Berthold, R. und die mechanische Wärmetheorie /Heidelb. 1874/, Bauernfeind, B. T., Graf von R./München 1889/.

Aus Sammlung Dr. K. Loewenfeld.

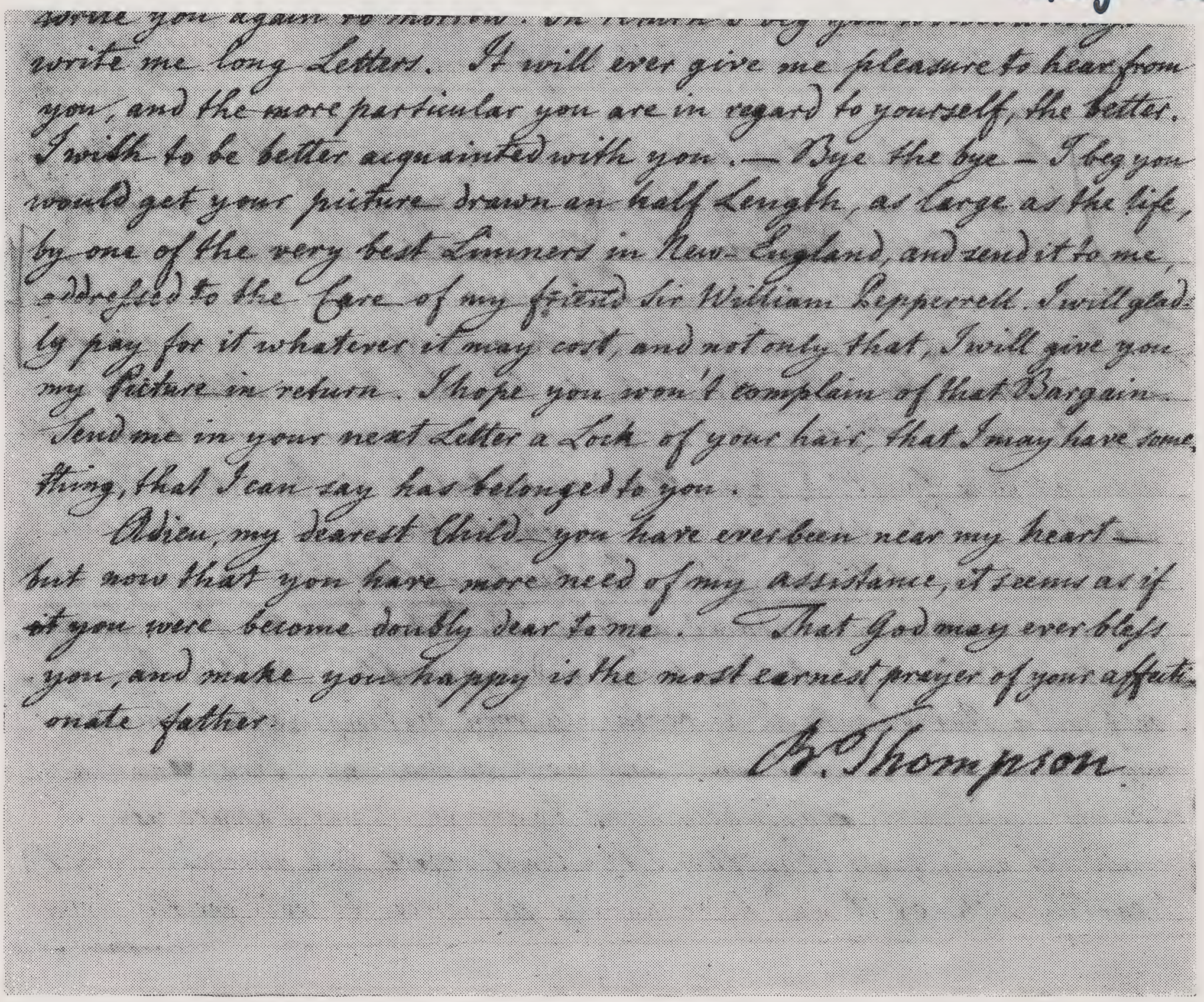
tion is in Wright Howes' *U.S.iana.*

AMERICAN SCIENTIST AND SOLDIER

Two Letters of Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford) — One on the Loyalists, the Other to His Long-Lost Daughter

The words *Americanism* and *un-Americanism* are sometimes used as though they were precise terms, defined by a

May 1963



write me long Letters. It will ever give me pleasure to hear from you, and the more particular you are in regard to yourself, the better. I wish to be better acquainted with you. — Bye the bye — I beg you would get your picture drawn on half Length, as large as the life, by one of the very best Painters in New England, and send it to me, addressed to the Care of my friend Sir William Pepperell. I will gladly pay for it whatever it may cost, and not only that, I will give you my Picture in return. I hope you won't complain of that Bargain. Send me in your next Letter a Lock of your hair, that I may have something, that I can say has belonged to you.

Adieu, my dearest Child — you have ever been near my heart — but now that you have more need of my assistance, it seems as if you were become doubly dear to me. That God may ever bless you, and make you happy is the most earnest prayer of your affectionate father.

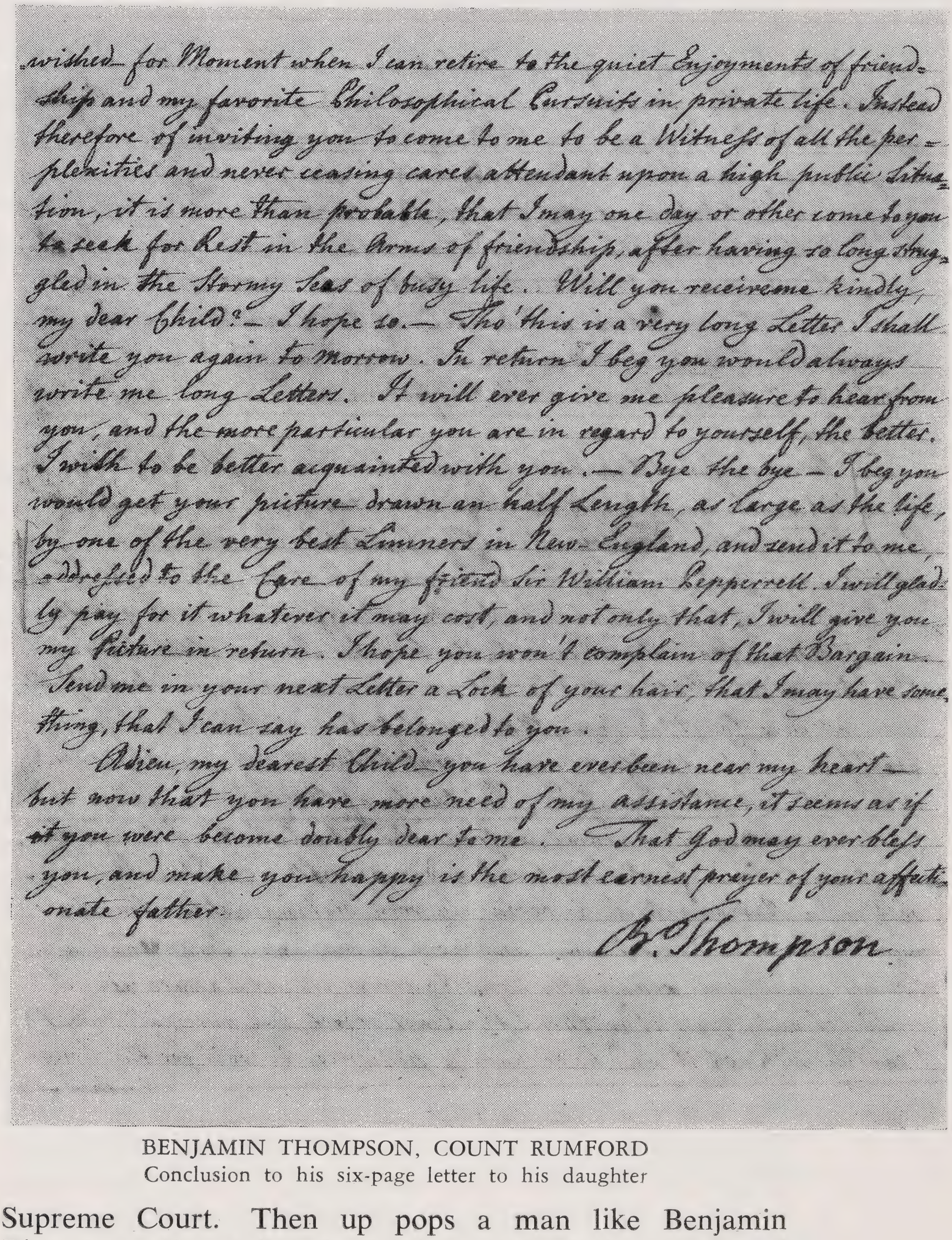
B. Thompson

BENJAMIN THOMPSON, COUNT RUMFORD
Conclusion to his six-page letter to his daughter

Supreme Court. Then up pops a man like Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, who was both American and un-American (by anyone's definition) to rather remarkable degrees. He was born in Woburn, Mass., in 1753 — though an important phase of his Americanism is associated with New Hampshire — and he died at Auteuil near Paris in

a manuscript translation of the Lord's Prayer [illegible]
by McKee, which he had sent in a letter (1789) to Colonel George Morgan for transmission to General George Washington, who was in turn to present it to none other than Catherine the Great of Russia.

In early life McKee was assistant to Indian Agent George Corghan at Fort Pitt and in 1765 he was named commis-



wished for Moment when I can retire to the quiet Enjoyments of friendship and my favorite Philosophical Pursuits in private life. Instead therefore of inviting you to come to me to be a Witness of all the perplexities and never ceasing cares attendant upon a high public Station, it is more than probable, that I may one day or other come to you to seek for Rest in the Arms of friendship, after having too long struggled in the Stormy Seas of busy life. Will you receive me kindly my dear Child? — I hope so. — For this is a very long Letter I shall write you again to morrow. In return I beg you would always write me long Letters. It will ever give me pleasure to hear from you, and the more particular you are in regard to yourself, the better. I wish to be better acquainted with you. — Bye the bye — I beg you would get your picture drawn at half Length, as Large as the life, by one of the very best Painters in New England, and send it to me, addressed to the Care of my friend Sir William Pepperell. I will gladly pay for it whatever it may cost, and not only that, I will give you my Picture in return. I hope you won't complain of that Bargain. Send me in your next Letter a Lock of your hair, that I may have something, that I can say has belonged to you.

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1814. He became one of those many-sided men the 18th century was so adept at producing. *D.A.B.* calls him "physicist, organizer, and philanthropist," but he was a military as well as a political and scientific organizer, and it is with the military side of his career (as a Loyalist in the Revolution) that one of two letters of his that we now have is concerned.

At the age of nineteen Thompson married the widow of wealthy and prominent Colonel Benjamin Rolfe of Concord, N. H. (originally called Rumford). A dozen years older than her new husband and well established in New Hampshire society, she introduced him to Gov. John Wentworth, who was much taken with him and impulsively commissioned him a major in a New Hampshire regiment, thus provoking the resentment of veterans of the French wars who were more deserving. Then came the Revolution.

"Thompson's indebtedness to Gov. Wentworth," says *D.A.B.*, "committed him in a manner to the British or Loyalist side . . . though he seems at first to have had no strong inclination toward one side or the other." Thompson's Loyalism seems also to have been partly in reaction to the continuing resentment of those who envied him his major's commission. In 1774 or 1775 he fled hostile Concord where his life was possibly in danger and came to Cambridge, Mass., where he applied for a commission in Washington's army. Refused because of his Concord troubles, Thompson had only one side left to choose. In the fall of 1775 he sought refuge on a British frigate and in the following year he went to England as an agent of Gov. Wentworth. In England he won the favor of Lord George Germain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who placed him in the Colonial Office and later gave him the sinecure of Secretary of the Province of Georgia (which by then was stubbornly calling itself a sovereign state). At this time Thompson was also conducting scientific experiments and he became a member of the Royal Society.

About 1781 Thompson was commissioned lieutenant-colonel in the King's American Dragoons and sent to America, where he served in South Carolina and New York, being promoted to colonel. After the war he was retired on half-pay, which brings us to the time of our first letter (*circa* 1782-83), addressed to "My Lord."

"I have found the paper Lord North had mislaid, and I send it to your Lordship.

"By the inclosed Paper N. 2 you will see the Proportion of the Officers in the Provincial Line who are not American sufferers [*i.e., Loyalists*] bear to the whole. . . .

"Those who entered the Provincial Service as Volunteers, and acquired their Rank by their services are surely intitled to half Pay, tho they [*do or may*] not have so great pretension as those who have suffered in the Property on account of their Loyalty. . . ."

Thompson married the Widow Rolfe late in 1772 — or rather, as he said later, "She married me, not I her" — when he was nineteen and she thirty-two. In 1774 she presented him with a daughter, Sarah, her namesake, and barely a month later Thompson departed their mansion in Concord never to see his wife again nor his daughter until she was twenty-two (about four years after the date of our second Thompson letter). From the end of the Revolution until his death in 1814 Thompson lived abroad, mostly in England, Bavaria, and France, yet when he was made a Count of the Holy Roman Empire in 1791 he chose as his title the name of Count Rumford in honor or in sentimental recollection of his wife's birthplace. (Seven years earlier he had been knighted by George III.)

Early in his European travels Thompson met Maximilian, later Elector of Bavaria, who was to use the New Englander's services for many years in various military and civil capacities — privy councilor, major-general, head of both the Bavarian departments of war and of peace — in which he made major contributions to social welfare measures and "urban renewal," as we should say now. Meanwhile Thompson was occupied with scientific matters both in Europe and England, being a co-founder of the British Royal Institution and of scientific societies in Germany. Yet he did not forget his native land from which he had long been an exile, for he established a prize of $5,000 to be given by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and endowed a professorial chair at Harvard for the advancement of applied sciences.

Thompson's daughter, Sarah, joined him in Europe about 1796. When she returned to America three years later he thought of going with her, as he had good reason to believe that the superintendency of our Military Academy at West Point was available to him, but his preoccu-

pations with the Royal Institution and other scientific affairs detained him. In 1805 he married the widow of the great French chemist, Lavoisier, but this marriage, like his first, soon ended in separation. Count Rumford had no aptitude for widows. In 1811 daughter Sarah came to live with her father in Auteuil, near Paris, remaining for three years until his death. She then returned to America, where she lived until her death in 1852 in the same New Hampshire house in which she had been born.

When Thompson saw his daughter for the first time since her infancy, she was about twenty-two years old. A London acquaintance described her as "a golden haired girl . . . more fair of figure and form than Lady Sarah herself" — a comparison which a former owner of this letter takes to refer to Lady Sarah Lennox, mistress of George III. Thompson's letter to his long-lost daughter, written about four years before their first reunion, is an extensive and very unusual one, in the hand of his secretary but signed by the Count himself. In very small part:

"My dear Child,

"I will not attempt to describe my feelings at reading your letter. . . . This letter, the first I ever received from you, brought me the first Account of the Death of your Mother, and gave me the first Assurances of the affectionate and dutiful Regard of a Child, who, above 17 Years ago I left in her Cradle . . . and who I have never seen since. . . .

". . . I shall not explain to you now the reasons which induced me to remain so long silent. . . . Circumstances are now changed. . . .

"Believe me *my dear Child,* Happiness and Content are to be found only in the quiet Enjoyment of private life. . . . It would be very natural for you upon receiving assurances . . . of a Father in a distant Country, who you heard had raised himself to a high Station, at the Court of a powerful Sovereign, to form to yourself imaginary Schemes of future Enjoyments. . . .

". . . I am by no means Rich. . . .

"Few Persons of my Age have had more Experience of the World than I . . . [*yet*] could I today see you married to the first Nobleman of this Court, — from motives of paternal Sollicitude . . . I should refuse my Consent. . . . And tho' I am myself in a Station which is certainly very distinguished . . . yet I . . . am really most heartily sick of it, and have hardly Patience to wait for the long-wished-for Moment when I can retire to the quiet Enjoyments of Friendship and my favorite Philosophical [*scientific*] Pursuits in private life. . . ."

In view of the peculiar relationship between father and

daughter at this time it would have been difficult for Count Rumford to write such a letter without some degree of cant and hypocrisy — yet, for the most part, it is an honest letter. It is true, for example, that he was separated from his second wife, the Widow Lavoisier, because he really did prefer his scientific experiments and philosophical speculations, while she wanted to have him forever on the go at parties and balls. And by 1792 Count Rumford probably did have his fill of fame. After all, a New England Yankee named Ben Thompson can stomach only so much pomp and circumstance.

BENJAMIN THOMPSON (COUNT RUMFORD). A.L.S., 2 pages, folio, without place or date, to "My Lord," signed *B. Thompson*. On the Loyalist soldiers in the Revolution. $125.00

—— L.S., 6 pages, 4to, Munich, Bavaria, August 1, 1792, to his daughter, Sarah, signed *B. Thompson*. Much of this fine, long letter deals with "the Virtues which grace a perfect Female," paternal advice on conduct, character, education, and accomplishments. $200.00

SHREWSBURY EDITION OF THE WORKS OF "THE MOST VERSATILE OF ICONOCLASTS"

Both had the same name and both were brilliant English satirists, so some helpful person suggested calling one of them Samuel ("Hudibras") Butler (1612-80) and the other Samuel ("Erewhon") Butler (1835-1902). No relation, by the way. This is about the "Erewhon" one — who was not only a satirist but so much besides that he is among the few productive authors who seldom wrote the same book twice.

You will find all sorts of people who rank the later Butler among their favorite authors, but not always for the same book. To one it will be his satirical-Utopian *Erewhon;* to another his "spiritual autobiography," *The Way of All Flesh;* to a third the artist-traveler's *Alps and Sanctuaries;* to a fourth the grand tour de force, *The Authoress of the Odyssey,* for an account of which see Paul Jordan-Smith in *The Colophon, New Series,* Vol. I, No. 2; to a fifth it may be the incomparable night-table anodyne, *The Note-Books,* of which Butler said, "One's thoughts fly so fast that one must shoot them; it's no use trying to put salt on their tails."

One might almost go through the whole list of titles in the set of Butler's complete works listed below, in which you'll find a *First Year in Canterbury Settlement,* his first book, an account of his early and surprisingly successful career as a New

Zealand sheep-breeder. His translations of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* into colloquial English verse are here, alongside his new look that produced *Shakespeare's Sonnets Reconsidered.* And here also is the originally pseudonymous *The Fair Haven,* even more elaborately ironic than *Erewhon,* a satirical "defence" of New Testament miracles which was taken quite seriously by certain solemn sectarians, who praised it as a "splendid defence of orthodox Christianity" — this by a man who said of himself, "I am an atheist, thank God," though he was not. And also his *Life* [autobiography] *and Letters* and all the other majors and minors, beautifully printed on excellent paper at the Chiswick Press in London.

THE SHREWSBURY EDITION OF THE WORKS OF SAMUEL BUTLER. Edited by Henry Festing Jones & A. T. Bartholomew. Illustrated. 20 vols., 8vo, blue buckram covers with vellum backs lettered in gold, gold tops, other edges uncut, dust jackets (some tears in dust jackets, including drastic ones in two cases). London, Jonathan Cape . . . 1923-26. $250.00

One of 750 numbered sets. Fine condition.

"Church and state man, or advanced member of the broad church party, as he whimsically described himself, Butler, the most versatile of iconoclasts, attacked received opinion in religion, science, painting, archaeology, literary criticism, and music; but his most determined onslaught was on the canting, conventional morality in which the genteel children of his age were reared." — Thomas Seccombe.

". . . in the department of satire, Butler is the greatest English writer in the latter half of the nineteenth century." — George Bernard Shaw.

To which we must add an oft-told tale. . . . When Butler sent the manuscript of *Erewhon* to Chapman & Hall in 1871 their reader, George Meredith, refused it. Apprised of this, Butler said,"This is not strange, for I should probably have condemned his *Diana of the Crossways,* or indeed any other of his books. . . . No wonder if his work repels me that mine should repel him." — Henry Festing Jones: *Samuel Butler, a Memoir.*

LOVELY MATILDA

Here is the latest and one of the finest and most decorative of the series of colored collotype prints, after original paintings of old sailing ships, published by the Peabody Museum of Salem. The original painting, which is in the Museum's collection, was done by one of the most famous of the late-18th and early-19th century marine artists. It is signed "Ant. Roux au Marseilles 1808."

SHIP LOVELY MATILDA OF PHILADELPHIA, Captn. Benjn. Huggins. Pictorial surface (including border) 16½" by 22½" — over all (including margins) 22" by 28". $15.00

RUMFORD, Count

Letter of introduction
August 5, 1799